



Sherborne Chamber of Trade & Commerce
Minutes of the Zoom Meeting: 1800hrs Monday 10th May 2021
(Closed meeting)

Attendees: Keith Bawden – Chair, Taff Martin – VC, Nick Hunt – Treasurer, Lynda Martin – Secretary, Lauren Ottewill – Coordinator, Tina Kerr, Laura Hitchcock, Jeremy (Waitrose), Ian Crighton, Carl Hankey & Barnaby Baker.

Apologies: Jane Wood – President,

1. Matter arising from previous minutes: – covered below.

2. Chairman's report: (KB) – The majority of empty shops in the town, belong to Chesterton's. Apparently, there are four new shops coming into the town with three more following soon.

The Job application for Lauren has gone on to the website, Facebook etc. ready for June. It may need to be advertised on indeed – Nick will put it through for us.

Sherborne business awards is on 3rd June at The Grange, all winners will be announced then. Any queries direct to Marketing West, as they are the organisers of it.

Will be formulating the results of the crime survey soon and will be sending them to the town council and police commissioner, will update us at the next meeting.

Please remember to send any news and stories for the next newsletter. When we know what the new businesses are, we can mention them too.

3. Treasurer's report: (NH) – The balance in the Nat West account is £18,021.30. So other than paying for Dorset Mind, hardly any movement. Balance of the PayPal account is £1,335.22.

4. Membership: (LO) – There are now 6 outstanding. Jeremy will find out about payment for Waitrose and Keith will send an email out as a final reminder, to the other 5, or they will be taken off membership list.

5. Marketing:

a. Quarterly Newsletter: – Due in July – so please send anything to Keith.

b. Fiver Feast update : (JW) – No movement yet, the dates are still 12th – 26th June. We will need more help on the social media side of things with this, especially when Lauren leaves.

6. Action groups:

a. Police: – Keith – No movement here either, will send the crime survey report to them. Will also investigate the camera being installed on the A30.

b. Tourism Forum: – Ian sent an email but hasn't heard anything back yet, so will chase that up! Taff mentioned that Sherborne Town Council are talking about having it in their office.

c. Market: - Carl said it went very well with a lot of stalls. Next one is this Sunday. Only feedback was it was very crowded.

d. Indies: – Jane asked why there was an 'Indies' as there is no chairperson, there was no agenda etc, so maybe they should merge with the Chamber. Tina will email Tammy to arrange discussions with the Chamber.

7. Chamber Events:

a. Post-Covid, summer drinks: – **July**, Ian asked at the Eastbury and they are not using their rooms for outside events now. There were talks about the Plume, The Green or maybe Cross Keys.

Everyone agreed the Cross Keys might be a good idea, depending on space. Ian will talk to Mo .

b. Events:

***Mind** - 11th May, evening session, 6pm. Only 4 booked, so please try and attend if you can.

***Cybercrime awareness** - 11th May, afternoon session.

***National Networking** - South East Chamber 13th May

***Panel Discussions** - Dorset Chamber 19th May.

***Sherborne Bash - Taff** - Friday 24th June 4pm-9pm, by the Cross Keys. Bands etc. The P.A. system is £295.00, awaiting cost of the stage. The idea is that the costs to be shared between Sherborne Town Council and the Chamber. More details to follow.

9. AOB:

a. Recruitment: Mentioned in Keith's report.

b. Indies – Do we pen communications with them? – Tina will email Tammy.

c. AGM June – it was felt that the AGM is was too soon, as its before the final covid restrictions being lifted. It was agreed to have the AGM at the same time as our summer drinks, which will hopefully entice more people to come, people will feel more comfortable about coming out. The date in July to be confirmed.

Keith will check the constitution regarding the notice we have to give for advertising the AGM. The next Chamber meeting will now be 14th June, instead of the AGM.

Meeting closed at 6.45pm

Date of next meeting:

14th June 2021 – public meeting